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## **Douglas Education Center (DEC) Institutional Response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus)**

April 8, 2020 - 4:00pm

Good afternoon DEC Students:

Life surely has not been normal lately for any of us. Two months ago who would have known what we would be facing. No one could have predicted the impact this Coronavirus would have on all of us.

The media and the health experts have been reporting some positive news that the number of cases have slowed. Social distancing, staying home, and the use of masks and gloves have been working. These are beginning signs of hope and optimism. However, we are not out of the woods just yet. Continue to be safe and know we look forward to the day all of you are on campus doing what you love.

Please also know we understand what you are going through. This is not what you signed up for or expected. Unfortunately, these are the cards we were dealt. We all must make the most of it. We understand all our efforts to develop and implement our online / distance learning curriculum, as good as they may be, are no substitute for the hands-on experience and learning you receive on campus. We know being on campus is not an option until it is safe for everyone to return. That decision rests with our Governor and our President.

Until then, I urge you to continue your studies, listen to your instructors, do all the assignments, be creative with your projects, and remain focused on the grand prize – your career. You do this because you believe in yourself.

By doing this, DEC will make you a promise upon your return. Based on what the various regulatory agencies allow, we will provide you with the hands-on classes and learning needed.

You are very important to us. We care about you and understand what you need to be successful. Please know we will do our best.

Until then, stay safe, stay positive, stay focused, and stay engaged.

All the best,

Jeffrey D. Imbrescia CEO / President